

Remarks

Examiner Berezny is thanked for the thorough Office Action.

Election/Restriction

Applicant acknowledges the final of the requirement of with respect to the applicant's traverse of the invention claims 1 to 17. Please cancel non-elected claim 18 to 30. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute these claims a divisional patent application at a later date.

In the Claims

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of dependent claim 6, thus rendering amended independent claim 1 and depending claims 2 to 5 allowable as indicted by the Examiner's allowability of claim 6 with the limitations of its base claim 1 and any intervening claims (none).

Independent claims 7 and 13 have been amended to change their respective line 4 to "forming a final passivation layer over said metal/copper terminating pad" as suggested by the Examiner to clarify the claimed invention and to render amended independent claims 7 and 13 and their respective depending claims 8 to 12 and 14 to 17 allowable.

Claim Rejections

The Rejection of Claims 7 To 17 Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph, as Containing Subject Matter Which Was Not Described in the Specification in Such a Way as to Reasonably Convey to One Skilled in The Relevant Art That the Inventor(s), at the Time the Application was Filed, had Possession of the Claimed Invention

The rejection of claims 7 to 17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention is acknowledged.

Line 4 of claims 7 and 13 have been amended to “forming a final passivation layer over said metal/copper terminating pad” as suggested by the Examiner. These amendments overcome this §112, first paragraph, rejection and, and as noted by the Examiner independent claims 7 and 13 and their dependent claims are now allowable, subject to a final search by the Examiner.

The Rejection Of Claims 1 And 3 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as Being Unpatentable Over Benenati et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,177,729) In View Of Estes et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,410,415)

The rejection of claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Benenati et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,177,729) (the ‘729 Benenati Patent)

in view of Estes et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,410,415) (the '415 Estes Patent) is acknowledged.

The Rejection Of Claims 4 And 5 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as Being Unpatentable Over Benenati et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,177,729) As Applied To Claims 1 And 3 Above, And Further In View Of Nuytkens et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,552,555)

The rejection of claims 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Benenati et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,177,729) (the '729 Benenati Patent) as applied to claims 1 and 3 above, and further in view of Nuytkens et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,552,555) (the '555 Nuytkens Patent) is acknowledged.

The Rejection Of Claim 2 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as Being Unpatentable Over Benenati et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,177,729) In View Of Estes et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,410,415) As Applied To Claim 1 Above

The rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Benenati et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,177,729) (the '729 Benenati Patent) in view of Estes et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,410,415) (the '415 Estes Patent) as applied to claim 1 above is acknowledged.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable limitation of dependent claim 6, now canceled, and therefore claim 1, and its depending claims 2 to 5, are allowable mooted the above §103(a) rejections to claims 1 to 5.

Claims 7 and 13 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner, placing them, and their respective depending claims 8 to 12 and 14 to 17, in condition for allowance subject to a final search.

Allowable subject matter

The objection to claim 6 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims is acknowledged. Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable limitation of claim 6 as indicated by the Examiner, with claim 6 having been canceled. Therefore claims 1 to 5 are allowable.

Applicants acknowledge the statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter.

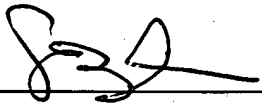
Therefore claims 1 to 5 and 7 to 17 are submitted to be allowable over the cited references and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectively requested. Allowance of all claims is requested. Issuance of the application is requested.

It is requested that the Examiner telephone Stephen G. Stanton, Esq. (#35,690) at (610) 296 – 5194 or the undersigned attorney/George Saile, Esq. (#19,572) at (845) 452 – 5863 if the Examiner has any questions or issues that may be resolved to expedite prosecution and place this Application in condition for Allowance.

Respectively submitted,



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